

Written Testimony of Marcia Wilkins of the Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club Before the
Connecticut General Assembly Environment Committee
February 28, 2014

Written Testimony Concerning Senate Bill 237 AN ACT PROHIBITING THE STORAGE OR
DISPOSAL OF FRACKING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT

I am Marcia Wilkins of Brookfield Connecticut. I am the volunteer Conservation Chair for the Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club. I hold a Master of Science Degree. I thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to present testimony in support of this Bill.

My support is based on the nature of fracking waste, namely its toxicity and radioactivity. To allow fracking waste products to enter our State for any reason would expose our citizens to harmful chemicals, even if precautions were instituted.

Fracking chemicals, mixed with water, return to the surface of the natural gas drilling wells. This mixture is often radioactive because of uranium, radium and other radioactive elements. Thousands of fracking wells produce billions of gallons of toxic waste products, often carcinogenic. The states in which fracking has been taking place have hundreds of instances of water pollution.

Fracking waste products were not produced in our State and hence the responsibility for its disposal must be undertaken elsewhere.

The complete ban on transit, storage, recycling fracking waste mandated by this Bill is the proper approach to this issue.

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